

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the performance of a thorough search. By this amendment, Claims 1, 16, 36, and 51 have been amended. Claims 71-73 are newly added, and Claims 4 and 39 are cancelled. Hence, Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 10-38, 40, 41, 43, and 45-73 are pending in this application. The amendments to the claims and the new claims are supported in the specification and thus do not add any new matter to this application. All issues raised in the Office Action mailed August 22, 2007 and the Advisory Action mailed November 8, 2007 are addressed hereinafter.

First, as indicated by the Applicant-Initiated Interview Request Form filed herewith, Applicant wishes to discuss this Application with the Examiner and a primary or SPE. Acknowledgement of this Form is requested.

Next, Applicant wishes to alert the Examiner to the fact that the Response filed on June 11, 2007 may have some errors in formatting. Specifically, within that Response, the below phrase appears to have been omitted from the listing of Claims 1 and 36. Applicant regrets the error.

wherein the second parties control the source code of the database applications that the second parties use the send database commands to the database management systems managed by the first parties;

The Examiner will note that, by this Preliminary Amendment, this phrase has been deleted from both Claims 1 and 36. The Examiner's acknowledgement of this issue is requested.

Next, within the Response filed on June 11, 2007, Applicant may have included an amendment which is improper for being in the wrong format. Within Claim 1, at line 8, the following text now appears:

providing, over [[a]] the network, to database applications owned and . . .

This deletion of the 'a' was attempted within the June 11, 2007 amendment, but was formatted improperly. A strikethrough (a) was improperly used. Because the expression to be deleted is five letters or less, brackets [[a]] should have been used, not strikethrough. Applicant regrets the error. The Examiner's acknowledgement of this issue is also requested.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11-13, 15, 17-21, 27, 33, 36, 38, 39, 41, 45, 46-48, 52-56, 62, and 68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Kikuchi et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,457, 007 (Kikuchi) in view of Choy et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,581,060 (Choy). It is respectfully submitted that these claims are patentable over Kikuchi in view of Choy for at least the reasons provided hereinafter.

For convenient reference, Claim 1 (as amended) is repeated here.

A method for provisioning databases for users on a network, the method comprising the steps of:

- a first party managing one or more database systems;
- a plurality of second parties subscribing to database services supported by the one or more database systems managed by the first party, wherein the database services include services for storing and managing data provided by the second parties; and
- providing, over the network, to database applications owned and controlled by the second parties and maintained by the first parties, access to the database services to which the second parties are subscribed,
- wherein the database applications, owned and controlled by the second parties and maintained by the first parties, interact with the database systems managed by the first party by sending, from the second parties, to the database systems, over the network, database commands that conform to the database language supported by the database system;
- delivering over the network, to a user associated with one of said second parties, one or more messages which cause generation of user interfaces that allow the user to access a database for a database service to which said one of said second parties has subscribed; and
- the second parties defining one or more database objects comprising web site database components;
- the database objects generating and inserting code which is sent to the user's browser for presentation as a web page;
- wherein the steps of defining one or more database objects and generating and inserting code are performed by a web site building wizard.

Support for the amendments regarding database applications being maintained by the first parties can be found at least at page 32, line 7 of applicant's specification. Support for the second parties defining one or more database objects comprising web site database components can be found at least at page 45, lines 13-15. Support for database objects generating and inserting code can be found at least at page 45, line 20. Support for the web site building wizard can be found at least at page 45, lines 8-9 and lines 16-23. Thus, no new matter has been added.

As shown above, Claim 1 has been amended to recite more detail about how the database applications are owned and controlled by the second parties, but maintained by the first parties. Claim 36 has been similarly amended. This separation of responsibilities is not shown in any combination of prior art asserted thus far. These amendments were made partly in view of the remarks within the Advisory Action mailed November 8, 2007, at section 2.

Claims 1 and 36 have also been amended to recite more detail about web site database components, generating and inserting code, and the web site building wizard. These features are not shown in any combination of prior art asserted thus far. These amendments were made partly in view of the remarks within the Advisory Action mailed November 8, 2007, at section 3.

For at least the above reasons, the rejection of Claims 1 and 36 is invalid and should be withdrawn, as well as claims dependent therefrom. Because all remaining rejections depend either directly or indirectly on the rejections of Claims 1 and 36, these rejections are also invalid.

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone or e-mail to set up a time for an interview, and also if it is believed

that such contact would further the examination of the present application. As stipulated within MPEP Chapter 5, Applicant acknowledges that Internet communications may not be secure.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any fee shortages or credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,
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